# Initiatives to Decrease Cultural and Language Barriers

#### **Prepared By:**

Sonya Johnson Branch, PTA Chairperson of Diversity Council Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital







### **Hospital was Founded in 1922**

### 102 Licensed Beds

### *Type*

- 86 Pediatric Specialty
- **16** CARF Accredited Rehabilitation

#### Location

- 84 West Rogers Campus
- 15 Prince George's Hospital Center
- 3 "Paper"









### Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, Inc.

### **Rehabilitation Unit**











## **Community Outreach Programs**

- CPR Instruction to Families
- Golf Center
- Infant Massage Classes
- Sibshops (lead agency)
- Community Re-entry Program for children with acquired brain injury or burns
- Car Seat Safety Checks
- Parent Advisory Council
- Camp for Weigh Smart™





# The MWPH Diversity Council was established to

- Increase customer satisfaction to families of all cultural and ethnic backgrounds.
- Increase awareness and cultural competency of all MWPH healthcare providers and staff.



- Diverse Membership
- Clinical/Non-Clinical Staff
- Strong Executive Support that reports to Quality Steering Committee

# **Diversity Council Initiatives**

- Renovation of Chapel to Worship Room
- Interpretation Services
- Dietary Accommodations
- Provider/Staff Education
- Adjustments to Clinical Practice

## Renovation of Chapel to Worship Room

- Renovation occurred following feedback from families and customers.
  - Removal of all religious symbols
  - Addition of pillows and rugs for prayer
  - Access to religious books
  - Created a meditative environment

# Language Interpretation Services

- Johns Hopkins International Services
- At admission, Collaborative Care determines the family's needs
- Family training and Family Meeting are scheduled in conjunction with family and interpreter services.
- Additional services available through telecommunication.
- Several documents translated into different languages, such as patient rights, consents, etc.



## Dietary Accommodations

- Kosher Cart
- Access to Kosher Meals through Sinai's Kosher Kitchen
- Halal Meats for Islamic/ Muslim Diets
- Vegetarian/Vegan Diets



### Provider/Staff Education

- New Employee Orientation
- Monthly Cultural Poster Presentations
- Annual "Themed" Diversity Week
- On –line Cultural Quick Reference Sheets
- External Consultants

# Adjustments to Clinical Practice

- Male vs. Female Providers
- Recognizing Sabbath/ Prayer Requests
- Establishing Authority/ Family Spokesperson
- Family Education and Training
- Customize services to meet cultural needs
- Offer Customer Feedback forms to further accommodate individual family needs



## Goals and Future Projects

- External Consultant(s) on Cultural Competency Training for Council Members
- Improve hospital-wide education on Cultural Competency
- Establish relationships with External Resources to further Community Outreach